MGVs @ Work The North Point Lighthouse by MGV Marlene Jaglinski

Located in Milwaukee’s Lake Park, the lighthouse is a historic, maritime treasure. Since 1855, the North Point Lighthouse stood tall, overlooking the water and beaming out its light to protect and guide ships and watercraft. In 2010, North Point Lighthouse garden became a SEWMG approved project. The grounds are open 24/7 and there are people and wildlife enjoying the property everyday year round. North Point Lighthouse Friends, Lake Park Friends, Milwaukee County and the DNR all have interest in the property. We have learned to collaborate to form public and private partnerships for the benefit of the lighthouse grounds and the park area that surrounds it.

MGVs plant several large planters with annuals and perennials each year. We have added and replaced a number of shrubs and perennial plants over the last four years and continue to do so each season. There is a rain garden that needs some maintenance and we try to keep our educational signage and free information up to date and available for the public.

We have expanded our reach from the beds immediately surrounding the building to the forest edges along the north ravine to remove invasive species that are encroaching and choking out natives and other beneficial or desirable plants. MGVs also maintain the Victorian kitchen garden reminiscent of the time when Georgia Stebbins, the longest serving keeper of the lighthouse, had a vegetable and flower garden that was praised highly and frequently in The Milwaukee Journal during her tenure.

Each season we have guidelines and goals that we try to accomplish through a team approach and with as much fun, good humor and camaraderie as possible.